

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 085187

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT SUVA 382 ACTION SECSTATE INFO CANBERRA
WELLINGTON 13 APR

QUOTE

UNCLAS SUVA 382

FOR EA/ANP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM PFOR JF XP

SUBJ: CONFERENCE FOR A NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC, SUVA, APRIL 1-6

REF: A) STATE 82261 B) SUVA'S A-26 OF APRIL 11, 1975

1. REPORT ON SUBJ CONFERENCE (REF B) WAS POUCHED TO DEPT
APRIL 11, WITH REQUEST THAT DEPT PROVIDE COPIES TO BOTH INFO
ADDEES AND OTHER POSTS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REQUEST CONTAINED
REF A, SUMMARY OF REPORT FOLLOWS:

2. CONFERENCE WAS HELD AS SCHEDULED WITH SOME EIGHTY DELEGATES
FROM TWENTY-TWO COUNTRIES AND ISLAND TERRITORIES REPRESENTED,
INCLUDING US, CANADA, AND JAPAN. ALTHOUGH PRIMIN WAS SALTED
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PAGE 02 STATE 085187

ADDRESS OPENING SESSION, HE DID NOT ATTEND BUT SENT MESSAGE

TO BE READ. PM STRONGLY SUPPORTED CONFERENCE IN ITS AIMS TO PREVENT

NUCLEAR TESTING AND PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. CALLED CONFERENCE EXPRESSION OF DETERMINATION OF PACIFIC PEOPLE TO MAKE REGION, AND WORLD, A BETTER AND SAFER PLACE TO LIVE. HE SAID FIJI AS SMALL ISLAND STATE IS INCREASINGLY DEPENDENT UPON RESOURCES OF SEA AND THEREFORE IT VITAL THAT THIS ENVIRONMENT BE PROTECTED FROM MAN-MADE CONTAMINATION, PARTICULARLY NUCLEAR RADIATION. FIJI IS THEREFORE OPPOSED ALL FORMS NUCLEAR TESTING IN ALL ENVIRONMENTS AND WILL CONTINUE USE EVERY POSSIBLE FORUM TO VOICE THIS OPPOSITION. MESSAGE ENDED WITH CALL FOR ALL NATIONS TO DEVOTE THEIR NATIONAL RESOURCES TO FIGHTING POVERTY AND MISERY, NOT RPT NOT TO DEVELOPMENT OF EVER MORE SOPHISTICATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

3. CONFERENCE FOLLOWED PREDICTABLE LINES, WITH DELEGATES SHARPLY CRITICAL OF NUCLEAR TESTING IN PACIFIC. CRITICISM WENT BEYOND THIS POINT, HOWEVER, AND COVERED POLITICAL ISSUES AFFECTING VARIOUS AREAS. NEW HEBRIDEAN DELEGATION, FOR EXAMPLE, CRITICIZED FRENCH DOMINATION AND BRITISH NEO-COLONIALISM IN PACIFIC TO JUSTIFY ITS DEMANDS FOR INDEPENDENCE.

4. MICRONESIAN DELEGATION HIGHLY CRITICAL US ROLE IN NUCLEAR TESTS IN 1950S, RELATING HORROR STORIES OF MEDICAL PROBLEMS THAT HAVE AFFLICTED PEOPLE OF ISLANDS AFFECTED BY TESTS IN TTPI.

5. ON WHOLE, CONFERENCE ITSELF GENERATED RELATIVELY LITTLE COVERAGE IN MEDIA OR AMONG PUBLIC.

6. ON APRIL 8, FOLLOWING CLOSE OF CONFERENCE, REPRESENTATIVES OF CONFERENCE MET WITH PRESS AND STATED THAT BEFORE PACIFIC CAN BECOME NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IT MUST FREE ITSELF OF ALL COLONIAL TIES. WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO US AND FRANCE, REPRESENTATIVES SAID AREAS UNDER CONTROL THESE COUNTRIES WERE BEING USED FOR NUCLEAR TESTING AND MILITARY BASES. THEY CHARGED THAT THREE FACTORS LAY AT CORE OF ISSUE: RACIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND IMPERIALISM. PEOPLE OF PACIFIC ARE EXPLOITED BECAUSE THEY ARE CONSIDERED INSIGNIFICANT IN NUMBERS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 085187

INFERIOR AS PEOPLE. CONFERENCE REPS THUS URGED PEOPLE OF PACIFIC TO ASSERT THEMSELVES AND WREST CONTROL OF THEIR DESTINY FROM FOREIGN POWERS. TO ACHIEVE FREEDOM, REPS SAID THEY WOULD SUPPORT IF NECESSARY PEOPLE, ACTION GROUPS USING VIOLENCE TO ACHIEVE AIM. OTHER PLANS FOR ACTION INCLUDE SEEKING SUPPORT THROUGH UN, COMMITTEE OF TWENTY FOUR, TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL, COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

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